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**ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT FORM X-17A-5 PART III** 

SEC FILE NUMBER

8-53340

Washington, DC FACING PAGE
Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder **FACING PAGE** 

REPORT AS OF 12/31/07 MM/DD/YY			
A. REGISTRANT	IDENTIFICATION		
NAME OF BROKER-DEALER:			OFFICIAL USE ONLY FIRM ID. NO.
COLE PARTNERS, L.L.C.		L	· <u>-</u>
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: (Do	not use P.O. Box No.)		
415 North LaSalle St., Suite 501			
Chicago (Crty)	Illinois (State)	60610 (Zip Code)	
NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF REPOON TO			OPT
NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO C Bradley F. Cole	CONTACT IN REGARI	D TO THIS REP -312) 644	
		(Area Code – Tele	phone No)
B. ACCOUNTANT	IDENTIFICATION		
NDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion  Ryan & Juraska, Certified Public Accountant  (Name - if individual, state last, first, middle name)		eport*	
141 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 2250	Chicago	Illinois	60604
(Address)	(City)	SUPROC	ESSED
CHECK ONE: [X] Certified Public Accountant		MAR 2 4 2008	
<ul><li>Public Accountant</li><li>Accountant not resident in United States or a</li></ul>	any of its possessions		ASON ACIAI
FOR OFFICIAL	_ USE ONLY		

<sup>\*</sup>Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See section 240.17a-5(e)(2).

#### OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, <u>Bradley F. Cole</u>, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of <u>Cole Partners, L.L.C.</u> as of <u>December 31, 2007</u> are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that neither the company nor any partner, proprietor, principal officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account classified solely as that of a customer, except as follows:

None	
	Signerure  Managing Member
	Title

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

day of Jelmany, 2008
"OFFICIAL SEAL"
Philip C. Ryan
Notary Public, State of Illinois
My Commission Emp. 08/20/2008

PW Ch Notary Public

This report\*\* contains (check all applicable boxes)

- [x] (a) Facing Page.
- [x] (b) Statement of Financial Condition.
- [ ] (c) Statement of Income (Loss).
- [ ] (d) Statement of Cash Flows.
- [ ] (e) Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietor's Capital.
- [ ] (f) Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of General Creditors.
- [x] (g) Computation of Net Capital for Brokers and Dealers pursuant to Rule 15c3-1.
- [x] (h) Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
- [x] (i) Information Relating to the Possession or Control Requirements for Brokers and Dealers Under Rule 15c3-3.
- [ ] (j) A Reconciliation, including appropriate explanation, of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the Computation for Determination of the Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
- [ ] (k) A Reconciliation between the audited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of consolidation.
- [x] (I) An Oath or Affirmation.
- [ ] (m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report.
- [ ](n) A report describing any material inadequacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.
- [x] (o) Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Accounting Control.
- [ ] (p) Schedule of Segregation Requirements and Funds in Segregation Customers' Regulated Commodity Futures Accounts Pursuant to CFTC Rule 1.10(d)2(iv).

<sup>\*\*</sup>For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see Section 240.17a-5(e)(3).

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES PURSUANT TO SEC RULE 17a-5(d)

as of December 31, 2007

AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION



#### RYAN & JURASKA

Certified Public Accountants

141 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60604

Tel: 312.922.0062 Fax: 312.922.0672

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Member of Cole Partners, L.L.C.

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Cole Partners, L.L.C. as of December 31, 2007, that you are filing pursuant to Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. This financial statement is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of financial condition is free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the statement of financial condition. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Cole Partners, L.L.C. as of December 31, 2007, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statement taken as a whole. The information contained in the supplementary schedules is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statement, but is supplementary information required by Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic financial statement and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statement taken as a whole.

Chicago, Illinois February 20, 2008

Kyan & Yuraska

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION as of December 31, 2007

## **ASSETS**

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	1,403,998
Fees receivable		3,488,609
Investments in funds, at fair value		737,480
Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements at cost		
(net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$48,957)		51,236
Other assets	_	28,670
	\$_	5,709,993

## LIABILITIES AND MEMBER'S EQUITY

Liabilities Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$	1,155,247
Member's Equity	_	4,554,746
	\$_	5,709,993

# NOTES TO STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION as of December 31, 2007

. ....

### 1. Organization and Business

Cole Partners, L.L.C. (the "Company"), an Illinois limited liability company, was organized on March 18, 1998. The Company is a broker-dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. The Company arranges private placements, distributions of securities that do not involve public offerings on a "best efforts" (agency) basis, for which it receives fees in various forms, including continuing participations in management and incentive fees.

### 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Revenue Recognition

Fee income and related expenses are recorded on the accrual basis.

#### Fair Value Investments

The Company's investments in other funds are reported in the statement of financial condition at fair value which is equal to the market value of the net assets of the investment. The Company records its proportionate share of income or loss from the investments in the statement of operations. The underlying funds value securities and other financial instruments at market value, when available, or at fair value determined by the management of the respective funds when no readily ascertainable market value exists. Due to the inherent uncertainty of these valuations, estimated values may differ significantly from the values that would have been used had a ready market for the securities existed, and the differences could be material.

#### Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents consist of money market deposits with maturities of less than three months.

#### Depreciation and amortization

Depreciation of furniture and equipment is computed on the basis of estimated useful lives using the straight-line method. Leasehold improvements are being amortized over the term of the associated lease.

#### Income Taxes

No provision has been made for federal income taxes as the taxable income or loss of the Company is included in the respective income tax return of the member.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statement and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

# NOTES TO STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION as of December 31, 2007

## 3. Related-Party Transactions

For the year ended December 31, 2007, the Company leased office space from a related party. In addition, the Company had two receivables from another related party totaling approximately \$22,000 and \$315,000. These receivables are reflected in other assets and fees receivable, respectively, in the Statement of Financial Condition.

At December 31, 2007, the Company had an investment totaling approximately \$680,000 in a related entity which is reflected in the statement of financial condition as investments, at fair value.

#### 4. Commitments

The Company conducts its operations in a leased office facility. Annual rentals are charged to current operations. The annual rental commitments are approximately as follows:

Year Ending	
<u>July 31,</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2008	\$ 83,000
2009	88,000
2010	92,000
2011	97,000
2012	58,000
Total	\$ 418,000

#### 5. Benefit Plan

The Company has also established a salary reduction (401(k)) plan for qualified employees. The Company may elect to match employees' contributions and make further discretionary contributions to the plan, subject to certain limitations as set forth in the plan agreement.

#### 6. Net Capital Requirements

The Company is subject to the Securities and Exchange Commission Uniform Net Capital Rule (Rule 15(c)3-1). Under this rule, the Company is required to maintain "net capital" equal to the greater of \$5,000 or 6 and 2/3 % of "aggregate indebtedness", as defined.

At December 31, 2007, the Company had net capital and net capital requirements of \$248,751, and \$5,000, respectively.



# FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL COMBINED UNIFORM SINGLE REPORT PART III

BR	BROKER OR DEALER: COLE PARTNERS, L.L.C.		as of <b>December 31, 2007</b>			
	COMPUTATION OF NET CAPITAL					
1.	Total ownership (from Statement of Financial Condition- Item 1800)		\$4,	554,746	[3480]	
2.	Deduct: Ownership equity not allowable for net capital				[3490]	
3.	Total ownership equity qualified for net capital		\$4,	554,746	[3500]	
4.	Add:  A. Liabilities subordinated to claims of general creditors allowable in computation of net cap  B. Other (deductions) or allowable subordinated liabilities	oital			[3520] [3525]	
5.	Total capital and allowable subordinated liabilities		\$4,	554,746	[3530]	
6.	1. Additional charges for customers' and non-customers' security accounts 2. Additional charges for customers' and non-customers' commodity accounts  B. Aged fail-to-deliver 1. Number of items [3450] C. Aged short security differences- less reserved of [3460] 2. Number of items [3470] D. Secured demand note deficiency E. Commodity futures contract and spot commodities proprietary capital charges F. Other deductions and/or charges G. Deductions for accounts carried under Rule 15c3-1(a)(6),	[3540] [3550] [3560] [3570] [3580] [3590] [3600] [3610]	\$(4,;	30 <u>5,995</u> )	[3620]	
7.	Other additions and/or allowable credits (List)				[3630]	
8.	Net Capital before haircuts on securities positions		\$	248,751	[3640]	
9.	B. Subordinated securities borrowings C. Trading and Investment securities 1. Bankers' acceptance, certificates of deposit, and commercial paper 2. U.S. and Canadian government obligations 3. State and municipal government obligations 4. Corporate obligations 5. Stocks and warrants 6. Options 7. Arbitrage 8. Other securities D. Undue concentration	[3660] [3670] [3680] [3690] [3700] [3710] [3730] [3732] [3734] [3650] [3736]	\$	<u>-</u>	[3740]	
10.	Net Capital			248,751	[3750]	
	Non- Allowable Assets (line 6A)		OMIT F	PENNIES		
	Fees receivable       \$ 3,488,609         Investments in funds, fair value       737,480         Fixed assets, net       51,236         Other assets       28,670					

4,305,995

## FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL COMBINED UNIFORM SINGLE REPORT PART III

as of **December 31, 2007 BROKER OR DEALER: COLE PARTNERS, L.L.C.** COMPUTATION OF BASIC NET CAPITAL REQUIREMENT Part A [3756] 77,020 Minimum net capital required (6-2/3% of line 19) 11. Minimum dollar net capital requirement of reporting broker or dealer and minimum net capital 12. [3758] requirement of subsidiaries computed in accordance with Note (A) 5,000 77,020 [3760] 13. Net capital requirement (greater of line 11 or 12) [3770] Excess net capital (line 10 less 13) 171,731 14. [3780] 133,226 Excess net capital at 1000% (line 10 less 10% of line 19) 15. COMPUTATION OF AGGREGATE INDEBTEDNESS [3790] 1,155,247 16. Total A.I. liabilities from Statement of Financial Condition 17. [3800] A. Drafts for immediate credit B. Market value of securities borrowed for which no equivalent value [3810] is paid or credited [3830] [3820] C. Other unrecorded amounts (List) Deduct: Adjustment based on deposits in Special Reserve Bank Accounts (15c3-1(c)(1)(vii)) [3838] 18. [3840] 1,155,247 19. Total aggregate indebtedness [3850] 464% 20. Percentage of aggregate indebtedness to net capital (line 19 ÷ by line 10) [3860] 21. Percentage of debt to debt-equity total computed in accordance with Rule 15c3-1(d) COMPUTATION OF ALTERNATE NET CAPITAL REQUIREMENT Part B 2% of combined aggregate debit items as shown in Formula for Reserve Requirements pursuant 22. to Rule 15c-3-3 prepared as of the date of the net capital computation including both brokers [3870] or dealers and consolidated subsidiaries debits 23. Minimum dollar net capital requirement of reporting broker or dealer and minimum net capital [3880] requirement of subsidiaries computed in accordance with Note (A) [3760] 24. Net capital requirement (greater of line 22 or 23) 25. Excess net capital (line 10 less 24) [3910] [3851] 26. Percentage of Net Capital to Aggregate Debits (line 10 ÷ by line 17 page 8) Percentage of Net Capital, after anticipated capital withdrawals, to Aggregate Debits (line 10 27. [3854] less item 4880, page 11 ÷ by line 17 page 8) 28. Net capital in excess of: [3920] 5% of combined aggregate debit items or \$300,000 OTHER RATIOS Part C [3860] Percentage of debt to debt-equity total computed in accordance with Rule 15c3-1(d) 29. 30. Options deductions/Net Capital ratio (1000% test) total deductions exclusive of liquidating equity [3852] under Rule 15c3-1(a)(6), (a)(7) and (c)(2)(x)  $\div$  Net Capital NOTES: The minimum net capital requirement should be computed by adding the minimum dollar net capital requirement of the reporting broker dealer and, for each subsidiary to be consolidated, the greater of:

Minimum dollar net capital requirement, or

partners securities which were included in non-allowable assets.

6-2/3% of aggregate indebtedness or 2% of aggregate debits if alternative method is used.

For reports filed pursuant to paragraph (d) of Rule 17a-5, respondent should provide a list of material non-allowable assets.

Do not deduct the value of securities borrowed under subordination agreements of secured demand notes covered by subordination agreements not in satisfactory form and the market values of memberships in exchanges contributed for use of company (contra to item 1740) and

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# COMPUTATION FOR DETERMINATION OF RESERVE REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO RULE 15c3-3 as of December 31, 2007

The Company did not handle any customer cash or securities during the year ended December 31, 2007 and does not have any customer accounts.

#### **COLE PARTNERS, L.L.C.**

# COMPUTATION FOR DETERMINATION OF PAIB RESERVE REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO RULE 15c3-3 as of December 31, 2007

The Company did not handle any proprietary accounts of introducing brokers during the year ended December 31, 2007 and does not have any PAIB accounts.

#### **COLE PARTNERS, L.L.C.**

INFORMATION RELATING TO THE POSSESSION OR CONTROL REQUIREMENTS UNDER RULE 15c3-3 as of December 31, 2007

The Company did not handle any customer cash or securities during the year ended December 31, 2007 and does not have any customer accounts.



#### RYAN & JURASKA

Certified Public Accountants

141 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60604

Tel: 312.922.0062 Fax: 312.922.0672

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL

To the Member of Cole Partners, L.L.C.

In planning and performing our audit of the statement of financial condition of Cole Partners, L.L.C. (the "Company") as of December 31, 2007, we considered its internal control structure, including control activities for safeguarding securities, in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement and not to provide assurance on the internal control.

Also, as required by Rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), we have made a study of the practices and procedures followed by the Company, including tests of such practices and procedures that we considered relevant to the objectives stated in Rule 17a-5(g), in making the periodic computations of aggregate indebtedness (or aggregate debits) and net capital under Rule 17a-3(a)(11) and for determining compliance with the exemptive provisions of Rule 15c3-3. Because the Company does not carry securities accounts for customers or perform custodial functions relating to customer securities, we did not review the practices and procedures followed by the Company in any of the following:

- (1) Making quarterly securities examinations, counts, verifications, and comparisons
- (2) Recordation of differences required by Rule 17a-13
- (3) Complying with the requirements for prompt payment for securities under Section 8 of Federal Reserve Regulation T of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure and the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of internal control structure policies and procedures, and of the practices and procedures referred to in the proceeding paragraph, and to assess whether those practices and procedures can be expected to achieve the SEC's above-mentioned objectives. Two of the objectives of an internal control structure and the practices and procedures are to provide management with reasonable but not absolute assurance that assets for which the Company has responsibility are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Rule 17a-5(g) lists additional objectives of the practices and procedures listed in the proceeding paragraph.



Because of inherent limitations in internal control or the practices and procedures referred to above, error or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of them to future periods is subject to the risk that they may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of their design and operation may deteriorate.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statement that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statement will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first and second paragraphs and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control and control activities for safeguarding securities that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

We understand that practices and procedures that accomplish the objectives referred to in the second paragraph of this report are considered by the SEC to be adequate for its purposes in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and related regulations, and that practices and procedures that do not accomplish such objectives in all material respects indicate a material inadequacy for such purposes. Based on this understanding and on our study, we believe that the Company's practices and procedures were adequate at December 31, 2007 to meet the SEC's objectives.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the SEC, the Financial Industry and Regulatory Agency and other regulatory agencies that rely on Rule 17a-5(g) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in their regulation of registered brokers and dealers, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Chicago, Illinois

February 20, 2008

Kyan & Juraska

